WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining a price at which a new expendable is to be supplied, the price being determined by a computer in response to a user inquiry, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving the inquiry including expendable-related information by the computer, the expendable-related information being indicative of a model of an expendable container possessed by the user; and

(b) determining the price by the computer based on the expendable-related information.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the price to the user.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein

the expendable-related information includes information indicative of a remaining amount of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

4. The method in accordance with claim 3 wherein

the expendable-related information includes information indicative of a type of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

5. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein

the expendable container possessed by the user comprises a memory for storing the expendable-related information, and

the expendable-related information is to be read out from the memory.

6. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein

the method determines a price for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned to a supplier.

7. The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein

the step (b) includes the steps of:

verifying whether a first type order has been submitted to the supplier for the expendable container before, the first type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned to the supplier; and

determining a first type price for the first type order if the first type order has not been submitted before, while determining a second type price if the first type order has been submitted before, the second price being determined for a second type order, the second type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is NOT returned to the supplier.

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 wherein

the step (b) further includes a step of providing the user with options of the first type price and the second type price if the first type order has not been submitted before.

9. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein

the expendable is supplied by injecting the new expendable into the expendable container possessed by the user;

the inquiry includes injection amount information indicative of an amount of the new expendable to be injected; and

the step (b) further includes a step of determining a price based on the injection amount information and the expendable-related information.

10. The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein

the new expendable differs from the expendable remaining in the expendable container possessed by the user;

the inquiry includes new expendable information indicative of a type of the new expendable selected by the user; and

the step (b) further includes a step of determining a price based on the new expendable information and the expendable-related information.

11. An expendable supply device for supplying a new expendable in response to a user request, the device comprising:

a price determiner configured to determine a price for supplying a new expendable in response to the user inquiry;

an expendable container mount configured to mount an expendable container possessed by the user;

a request receiver configured to receive the user request; and

an expendable supplier configured to supply the new expendable in response to the request;

wherein the price determiner is further capable of:

receiving the inquiry including expendable-related information indicative of a model of the expendable container mounted on the expendable container mount; and

determining the price based on the expendable-related information.

12. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein

the expendable-related information includes information indicative of a remaining amount of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

13. The device in accordance with claim 12 wherein

the expendable-related information includes information indicative of a type of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

14. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein

the expendable container possessed by the user comprises a memory for storing the expendable-related information, and

the expendable-related information is to be read out from the memory for the device.

15. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein

the device determines a price for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned to a supplier.

16. The device in accordance with claim 15 wherein

the price determiner is further capable of:

verifying whether a first type order has been submitted to the supplier for the expendable container before, the first type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned to the supplier; and

determining a first type price for the first type order if the first type order has not been submitted before, while determining a second type price if the first type order has been submitted before, the second price being determined for a second type order, the second type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is NOT returned to the supplier.

17. The device in accordance with claim 16 wherein

the price determiner provides the user with options of the first type order and the second type order if the first type order has not been submitted before.

18. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein

the expendable is supplied by injecting the new expendable into the expendable container possessed by the user;

the inquiry includes injection amount information indicative of an amount of the new expendable to be injected; and

the price determiner determines a price based on the injection amount information and the expendable-related information.

19. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein

the new expendable differs from the expendable remaining in the expendable container possessed by the user;

the inquiry includes new expendable information indicative of a type of the new expendable selected by the user; and

the price determiner determines a price based on the new expendable information and the expendable-related information.

20. A computer program product for causing a computer to determine a price at which a new expendable to be supplied in response to a user inquiry, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium; and

a computer program stored on the computer readable medium, the computer program comprising:

a first program for causing the computer to receive the inquiry including expendable-related information by the computer, the expendable-related information being indicative of a model of an expendable container possessed by the user;

a second program for causing the computer to determine the price by the computer based on the expendable-related information; and

a third program for causing the computer to display the price to the user.

21. The computer program product in accordance with claim 20, wherein

the second program comprises programs of:

a program for causing the computer to verify whether a first type order has been submitted to the supplier for the expendable container before, the first type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned to the supplier; and

a program for causing the computer to determine a first type price for the first type order if the first type order has not been submitted before, while determining a second type price if the first type order has been submitted before, the second price being determined for a second type order, the second type order being for providing a new expendable contained in a new expendable container on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is NOT returned to the supplier.

22. The computer program product in accordance with claim 21, wherein

the second program comprises for causing the computer to provide the user with options of the first type order and the second type order if the first type order has not been submitted before.

23. A method for supplying a new expendable by a computer, the new expendable being packaged in a new expendable container, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) accepting an inquiry regarding supply of the new expendable, the inquiry including expendable-related information indicative of a model of an expendable container possessed by a user;

(b) determining a first type price at which the new expendable is to be supplied on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned in response to the inquiry;

(c) displaying the first type price to the user;

(d) accepting a first type order from the user, the first type order generating a charge amount at the first type price on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned; and

(e) supplying the new expendable in exchange for the expendable container possessed by the user in response to the first type order.

24. The method in accordance with claim 23 wherein

the expendable container comprises a memory for storing the expendable-related information, and

the expendable-related information is to be read out from the memory.

25. The method in accordance with claim 23 wherein

the step (b) includes the steps of:

verifying whether the first type order has been submitted to the supplier for the expendable container before; and

determining the first type price if the first type order has not been submitted before, while determining a second type price if the first type order has been submitted before, the second type price at which the new

expendable is to be supplied on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is NOT returned;

the step (d) includes a step of accepting the first type order if the first price has been determined, while accepting the second type order if the second price has been determined, the second type order generating a charge amount at the second type price in response to the price determination; and

step (e) includes a step of supplying the new expendable in response to the second order.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25 wherein

the step (b) further includes a step of providing the user with options of the first type order and the second type order if the first type order has not been submitted before; and

the step (d) further includes a step of accepting the first type order if the first price has been selected, while accepting the second type order if the second price has been selected, in response to a selection of the options.

27. The method in accordance with claim 23 wherein

the expendable-related information further includes information indicative of a remaining amount of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

28. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein

the step (c) further includes a step of displaying an expendable supply menu for supplying expendable if the remaining amount falls below a predetermined value.

29. The method in accordance with claim 27 wherein

the expendable-related information further includes unsealing date information indicative of an unsealing date of the expendable;

the step (c) further includes the steps of:

selecting at least one new expendable from a plurality of types of expendables of different volume based on the remaining amount information; and

displaying the selected new expendable as a recommended expendable.

30. A computer program product for causing a computer to accept an order for a new expendable, the new expendable being packaged in a new expendable container, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium; and

a computer program stored on the computer readable medium, the computer program comprising:

a first program for causing the computer to accept an inquiry regarding supply of the new expendable, the inquiry including expendable-related information indicative of a model of an expendable container possessed by a user;

a second program for causing the computer to determine a price at which the new expendable is to be supplied on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned in response to the inquiry;

a third program for causing the computer to control a display of the price to the user; and

a fourth program for causing the computer to accept the order from the user;

wherein the order generates a charge amount on condition that the expendable container possessed by the user is returned.

31. The computer program product in accordance with claim 30 wherein

the expendable-related information further includes information indicative of a remaining amount of expendable remaining in the expendable container.

32. The computer program product in accordance with claim 31 wherein

the third program further comprises a program for causing the computer to display an expendable supply menu for supplying expendable if the remaining amount falls below a predetermined value.

33. The computer program product in accordance with claim 31 wherein

the expendable-related information further includes unsealing date information indicative of a unsealing date of the expendable; and

the third program further comprises:

a program for causing the computer to select at least one new expendable from a plurality of types of expendables of different volume based on the remaining amount information; and

a program for causing the computer to display the selected new expendable as a recommended expendable.